

EXHIBIT B:

**Declaration of Prior Invention in the United States
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 signed by**

RONALD S. KARR

on October 8, 2007

(2 pages)

Response to Non-Final Office Action filed October 22, 2007

From: Ron Karr

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Ronald S. Karr and Anand A. Kekre
Assignee: VERITAS Operating System
Title: COHERENTLY SHARING ANY FORM OF INSTANT SNAPSHOTS SEPARATELY FROM BASE VOLUMES
Application No.: 10/770,358 Filing Date: February 2, 2004
Examiner: Jae Un Yu Group Art Unit: 2185
Docket No.: VRT0133US Confirmation No.: 7650

Austin, Texas
October 5, 2007

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION IN THE UNITED STATES
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Dear Examiner Yu:

PURPOSE OF THE DECLARATION

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-10, 12, 15-17 and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as purportedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0154845 naming Shackelford, *et al.*, as inventors ("Shackelford"). The effective date of *Shackelford* is January 9, 2004.

Claims 2, 3, 11, 13, 14 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as purportedly being obvious over *Shackelford* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,222,558 issued to Berg ("Berg").

PATENT

DECLARATION

I, Ronald S. Karr, declare as follows:

1. I am an inventor of the claimed subject matter of the above-referenced application.
2. Attached is Exhibit A. Exhibit A is a redacted copy of an "Invention Disclosure Form" describing the invention claimed in the above-referenced application. *See Exhibit A, p.2, ¶¶ 3-7.* The date on the face of Exhibit A is October 16, 2003, which is before January 9, 2004.
3. Exhibit A was used as a basis for the above-referenced application.
4. Exhibit A shows that the invention claimed in the above-referenced application was implemented prior to the date on the face of Exhibit A. *See Exhibit A, p.3, ¶ 2.*
5. Exhibit A establishes our reducing to practice of the subject matter set forth in independent Claims 1, 6, 12 and 17 prior to the effective date of *Shackelford*.
6. All of the enumerated acts took place in the United States of America.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the Application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Inventor: Ronald S. Karr

Inventor's Signature: Ronald S. Karr

Date: 10/8/2007